High selling price of power

†4909. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL :
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that rate of power on which it is sold to consumers, is more than the average generation cost of power in the country;

(b) if not, the average rate of power on which it is sold to industrial, commercial, railways and domestic users, who mostly consume maximum power in the country; and

(c) to what extent this selling price is more than the average generation cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) State Electricity Boards/Electricity Utilities purchase power mainly from National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC). The average cost of generation of energy for the year 2001-02 in case of operating projects work out to about Rs. 1.43/kwh in case of NTPC and about Rs. 1.10/kwh in case of NHPC. As against this the average cost of supply for the year 2001-02 of the various utilities was 349.85 paise/kwh.

The tariff for various categories of consumers during the period 2001-02 were as under :

Amount in paise/kwh

Industrial	Commercial	Railways	Domestic
378.67	426.32	449.25	195.62

Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC)

4910. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States to whom the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) is supplying electricity;

(b) the dues the States owe to DVC, State-wise;

(c) the strategy adopted by the DVC to recover the dues from those States; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the reasons for snapping the supply to Jharkhand, specially to Dhanbad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) The Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) is supplying electricity to the participating States *i.e.* West Bengal and Jharkhand in accordance with the provision of the DVC Act, 1948.

(b) The dues from 1-10-2001 to 31-3-2003 (post securitization period) are as under :

(i) West Bengal : (-) Rs. 0.03 crores (Excess payment)

(ii) JSEB : Rs. 342.78 Crores

(c) In order to recover the outstanding dues from the concerned States, a tripartite Agreement (TPA) under the one time settlement scheme of State Electricity Board (SEB) dues, has been signed between the State Government, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Central Government. Under this scheme, the dues as on 30-09-2001 are to be securitized in form of 8.5% Statutory Liquidity ratio (SLR) Bonds by waiving off 60% of the surcharge. In addition the scheme entails payment of current bills by way of Letter of Credit. For any default in payment of current dues, the agreement stipulates graded regulation. For continued default beyond 90 days, the payment can be recovered by deductions from the State Government's Account held in RBI.

(d) Due to continued default of current payment by the JSEB, regulation in the form of load shedding is being done for a period of 3 hours 36 minutes daily in conformity with the provision of TPA signed by Jharkhand. Dhanbad which gets electricity from 33kv JSEB-Govindpur Feeder, 15% restriction on contract demand has been imposed.

Availability Based Tariff

4911. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether "Availability Based Tariff" has been introduced for southern electricity boards; and

(b) if so, the details thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Availability Based Tariff (ABT) has been introduced in the Southern Region with effect from 1st January, 2003. The ABT is a three-art-tariff